

# SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress  
1st Session

Vote No. 228

May 25, 1995, 4:12 p.m.  
Page S-7443 Temp. Record

## BUDGET RESOLUTION/Tax Increase (Tax Expenditures)

**SUBJECT:** Senate Concurrent Budget Resolution for fiscal years 1996-2002 . . . S. Con. Res. 13. Domenici motion to table the Exon (for Wellstone) amendment No. 1136.

### ACTION: MOTION TO TABLE AGREED TO, 84-15

**SYNOPSIS:** As reported, S. Con. Res. 13, the fiscal year 1996 Concurrent Budget Resolution, will reduce projected spending over 7 years to balance the budget by fiscal year (FY) 2002 without increasing taxes. Savings that will accrue from lower debt service payments (an estimated \$170 billion) will be dedicated to a reserve fund, which may be used for tax reductions after enactment of laws to ensure a balanced budget. Highlights include the following: the rate of growth in Medicare will be slowed to 7.1 percent; Medicaid's rate of growth will be slowed to 5 percent and it will be transformed into a block grant program; the Commerce Department and more than 100 other Federal programs, agencies, and commissions will be eliminated; welfare and housing programs will be reformed; agriculture, energy, and transportation subsidies will be cut; foreign aid will be cut; defense spending will be cut and then allowed to increase back to its 1995 level; and Social Security will not be altered.

**The Exon (for Wellstone) amendment** would instruct the Finance Committee to report changes to laws under its jurisdiction to increase revenues by \$70 billion (\$10 billion in fiscal year 1996; \$50 billion through fiscal year 2000, and \$70 billion through fiscal year 2002). Further, it would express the sense of the Senate that the Finance Committee, in meeting its reconciliation instructions on revenue, should eliminate excessive and unnecessary tax expenditures.

The amendment was offered after all debate time had expired. However, some statements on amendments were added to the record or were made before the amendments were offered and before debate time had expired. Also, by unanimous consent, 1 minute of time was allowed on each amendment for explanatory statements before each vote. Senator Domenici moved to table the Wellstone amendment. Generally, those favoring the motion to table opposed the amendment; those opposing the motion to table favored the amendment.

**Those favoring** the motion to table contended:

(See other side)

YEAS (84)				NAYS (15)		NOT VOTING (1)	
Republican (54 or 100%)		Democrats (30 or 67%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (15 or 33%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (1)
Abraham	Hutchison	Akaka	Johnston		Boxer		Mikulski- <sup>2</sup>
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Baucus	Kerrey		Bryan		
Bennett	Jeffords	Biden	Kerry		Conrad		
Bond	Kassebaum	Bingaman	Kohl		Dodd		
Brown	Kempthorne	Bradley	Lautenberg		Dorgan		
Burns	Kyl	Breaux	Leahy		Feingold		
Campbell	Lott	Bumpers	Levin		Feinstein		
Chafee	Lugar	Byrd	Lieberman		Harkin		
Coats	Mack	Daschle	Moseley-Braun		Hollings		
Cochran	McCain	Exon	Murray		Kennedy		
Cohen	McConnell	Ford	Nunn		Moynihan		
Coverdell	Murkowski	Glenn	Pryor		Pell		
Craig	Nickles	Graham	Robb		Reid		
D'Amato	Packwood	Heflin	Rockefeller		Simon		
DeWine	Pressler	Inouye	Sarbanes		Wellstone		
Dole	Roth						
Domenici	Santorum						
Faircloth	Shelby						
Frist	Simpson						
Gorton	Smith						
Gramm	Snowe						
Grams	Specter						
Grassley	Stevens						
Gregg	Thomas						
Hatch	Thompson						
Hatfield	Thurmond						
Helms	Warner						

#### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

#### SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

The Wellstone amendment proposes a \$70 billion tax increase. We oppose such a huge tax increase, and thus oppose the Wellstone amendment.

**Those opposing** the motion to table contended:

The budget deficit should be reduced in a way that is fair, responsible, and that involves shared sacrifice. As currently drafted, though, special interests that have managed to get tax breaks passed that benefit them are about to get a free ride. Over the years, Gucci lobbyists have managed to get little noticed items written into the tax code that benefit specific industries and sometimes just specific individuals. These exceptions from the normal rules result in less revenue being collected, which in turn leads to higher tax rates on everyone else to make up for the losses. Public interest groups of all ideologies, ranging from the National Taxpayers Union to the Cato Institute to the Progressive Policy Institute to Citizens for Tax Justice, have called for reform in this area. The Wellstone amendment answers this call by demanding the elimination of \$70 billion worth of special interest tax breaks. We are delighted to support this amendment.